


**REMARKS**

This Preliminary Amendment cancels, without prejudice, claims 1 to 12 and 14. Claim 13 remains pending for prosecution in the application. It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of the present application is new, non-obvious, and useful. Prompt consideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,  
KENYON & KENYON

Dated: Feb. 13, 2004

By: \_\_\_\_\_

  
Richard M. Rosati  
Reg. No. 31,792

One Broadway  
New York, New York 10004  
(212) 425-7200 (telephone)  
(212) 425-5288 (facsimile)

**CUSTOMER NO. 26646**